

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF AUGUST 4TH, 1936.

The Board of Public Works met on board the State Steamer DuPont, on Tuesday August 4th, 1936.

Harry W. Nice, Governor.
Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller.
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer.

Mr. Wm. H. Blakeman, State Budget Director and Mr. Wm. N. Kirkman, attended the meeting.

The meeting was held principally for the purpose of going over a tentative schedule of allocations to various State Departments, Boards, Institutions and Commissions from the 1937 Reserve Fund to supplement the budgets of those agencies for that year. Mr. Blakeman presented a report to the Board and a schedule showing the various State Agencies with figures showing the previous year's budget, requests for the 1937 Reserve Fund and tentative allotments. The Board went over these matters very carefully and after making some changes in the tentative allotments, requested Mr. Blakeman to advise the various State Agencies of the allotments and have them submit budget schedules for the fiscal year 1937 based on the amount appropriated to the Agencies plus the allotments from the 1937 Reserve Fund. These budget schedules will be considered by the Board at a later meeting after they have been filed by the Agencies with the Budget Director.

The Secretary took up with the Board the question of payment of bill of J. George Benschel, contractor, for construction work on the Meyer Cottage at Montrose School for Girls. Mr. Benschel's bill, in the amount of \$7,867.00 was forwarded to the Comptroller for payment. The Board had allotted \$7500.00 out of construction funds made available in the Emergency Bond Issue of 1935 and had made a further allotment of \$850.00 in connection with the work, this additional allotment to be paid from funds to be received from the United States Government as grants in connection with work being done at Spring Grove State Hospital and Eastern Shore State Hospital. The Board authorized the payment to Mr. Benschel of the amount of \$7200.00, which is the amount to the credit of the School for the construction work, and to the payment of bill of Mr. Friz for architectural services, of \$300.00. It was stated that

Mr. Bensei would have to wait until funds would be received from the United States Government in payment of our grants before the balance of his bill could be paid it being understood at the time he received the contract that this would be the case.

The Comptroller took up with the Board the question of reverting balances to the credit of Miscellaneous Examining Boards and agencies at the end of the current fiscal year on September 30th, 1936. The Board decided that the ruling of the Attorney General given to the Governor the early part of 1935 as to the disposition of unexpended balances at the end of a fiscal year should be adhered to and it was agreed that the Comptroller would make the necessary reversions in closing the books of the office at the end of this year.

State Property

The Secretary advised the Board that the furniture and equipment heretofore used by the State Survey Commission and the Maryland Milk Control Commission were turned over to the State Purchasing Agent and that the State Purchasing Agent in accordance with an understanding heretofore had with the Board had turned some of this equipment over to the State Roads Commission for use in connection with a road survey which is to be undertaken.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Thomas M. Jenifer, Special Assistant Attorney General assigned to the State Roads Commission, in connection with the Harpers Ferry Bridge. Mr. Jenifer submitted an extract from Minutes of Meeting of the State Roads Commission held on Tuesday, May 5th, 1936. This was read to the Board and the Board approved it, provided similar approval was given by the State of West Virginia.

The Secretary presented to the Board a communication from the State Roads Commission with deed conveying certain real estate unto Manzella Suman Stockman with right of way agreement.

The members of the Board executed the deed.

The Secretary presented to the Board a letter from the State Roads Commission, dated August 1st, 1936, with deed conveying certain property to Lilburn E. Evans and Gertrude I. Evans, his wife, Harford County, in connection with State Roads System, the land in question not being needed for State purposes.

The members of the Board executed the deed.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board, letter of the State Roads Commission, dated July 14th, 1936, relative to the filling of two vacant positions which were provided for in the 7th Budget Amendment in the Storeroom and Yards Department, the employees being Harry Krause, Automobile Mechanic, and Zenus B. Hooper, Automobile Mechanic.

RE: Retirement

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board letter from Doctor Ira A. Darling, Superintendent, of Springfield State Hospital, dated July 6th, relative to Mr. Wm. J. Knauff, classified as Supervisor of Hospital Attendants at the Institution.

The Board decided that in view of the rulings in such cases, it would be unable to comply with the request made by Doctor Darling.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a ruling of the Attorney General to the effect that the appropriation of \$15,000.00 for the construction of a suitable monument to Brigadier General Pulaski in Baltimore City could not be used in connection with the General Count Pulaski Memorial Day Nursery.

The following letter from Maryland Veterans' Commission dated July 11th, 1936 was read and considered -

MARYLAND VETERANS' COMMISSION

202 Guilford Ave.

Baltimore, Md.

July 11, 1936.

The Board of Public Works,
Union Trust Building,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Gentlemen:

On June 30th Sallie A. Thompson, who kept the books of our office, gave up her position with our Commission. For several weeks, in anticipation of her resignation, we had employed Kathryn Roberts to learn the work which Miss Thompson had been doing. We have been carrying Miss Roberts on our rolls as an "emergency" employee, with a salary of \$60. a month. It is now our desire to give her a regular appointment with a salary of \$900. a year.

It is also the desire of the Commission to increase the salaries of two other employees in our office to amounts which we feel would be more commensurate with their qualifications and the duties they perform. These increases are in the salaries of Emma Siegelin from \$960 to \$1080 a year, and of Margeret Brown from \$900 to \$960 a year.

For your information, the proposed appointment and increases are well within our budgetary allowance for administrative purposes. I may say also that Miss Thompson had been receiving a salary of \$1200 a year, so as a matter of fact even with the increases desired, we are effecting an annual saving of \$120.

It is respectfully requested, therefore, that you give your approval to the appointment of Miss Roberts, and to the increases of the other two employees, and, if possible, authorize that the same be made effective as of July 1, 1936.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Thomas B.R. Mudd,

Chairman.

The request of the Maryland Veterans Commission in this letter were approved.

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The following letter from Springfield State Hospital was read and considered -

SPRINGFIELD STATE HOSPITAL

July 6, 1936.

Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Md.

Gentlemen:-

I wish to ask your approval for increasing the compensation of Mr. Joseph Seivold to that of the grade of Charge Attendant, namely, \$66.60 per month.

Mr. Seivold is a very valuable employee at the Hospital inasmuch as he is coordinating musical and recreational activities in a most efficient manner.

His present compensation of \$41.40 per month is such that he must receive more in order to maintain his wife and child and his leaving the Hospital will result in a severe loss to the morale of both patients and employees.

In addition to other duties, Mr. Seivold has, during the past year, been able to develop and train patients and employees so that we now have a very acceptable orchestra and band. The orchestra has been able to substitute for a paid group at the patients' dances thus saving the Hospital as much as is requested in this increase of compensation.

Your approval of this change will be very much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Ira A. Darling, Md.
Superintendent.

IAD:MS

The Board approved the recommendation of Doctor Darling, Superintendent, the increased pay of Mr. Seivold to be taken care of by budget amendment.

The following letter from State Roads Commission, dated July 10th, 1936, was read and considered -

STATE ROADS COMMISSION

July 10, 1936.

Mr. Jos. O'C. McCusker,
Chief Deputy Comptroller,
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

The Commission has disbursed from its funds approximately \$30,000.00, in repairing damage to roads caused by the action of flood waters in March of 1936.

This sum has been expended, primarily, for labor of the State Roads Commission's forces and for materials purchased or obtained from Commission's stock on hand, and applied to road repairs at numerous locations within the flooded area.

May I ask that you advise me in what manner and in what details the Commission should present to you its request for reimbursement from the Loan Fund of 1936, for actual disbursements made by the Commission.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Wm. A. Codd,

Chief Auditor.

WAC:LEM

The Board was of the opinion that a statement showing the expenditure of this money should be submitted to the Board for its consideration and approval.

The Secretary read to the Board a letter from Maryland Training School for Colored Girls, dated July 2nd, 1936, relative to repairs and improvements to be made at that institution, the cost of which is to be taken care of out of allotment made by the Board sometime ago from funds to be received from the United States Government in connection with grants for work at State Institutions.

The Secretary was directed to reply to the letter, and say that funds could not be made available until such time as the State receives the grants from the Federal Government in connection with other State work.

*Tide water
Fisheries*

The following letter from the Conservation Department, dated July 16th, 1936, was read and considered -

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

July 16, 1936.

Mr. Joseph O. McCusker, Secretary,
Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:

An offer of \$150.00 has been made to the Conservation Commission as the purchase price for a scow located at Salisbury, Maryland, that has been owned by the Commission for several years and was used by the Department during the shell planting season. The hire for the scow has just about kept it in repair, but now the scow is in such a bad condition that the upkeep is going to be greater than the Commission feels able to carry.

If the Board of Public Works will approve the sale of it, the Commission would like to complete the transaction.

Be kind enough to bring the matter to their attention at the next meeting of the Board of Public Works and let us know their reply.

Very truly yours,

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

BY

/s/ Robert F. Duer
Chairman

RFD/EM

The Board approved the recommendation of Judge Duer, Chairman of the Commission, that the scow be sold at the price of \$150.00, which has been offered for it.

Encl.

The Secretary took up with the Board a proposal received from Hosack, Specht, Conniff & Wood, Accountants & Auditors, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in which they offered to ascertain from the records of State Agencies whether there is any money due the State from the Federal Government by way of refund of taxes, etc., offering to do the work and accept in payment for their services 50% of the amount recovered from the Federal Government.

The Secretary was directed to advise Messrs. Hosack, Specht, Conniff & Wood it was not interested in the proposition.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Doctor S. W. Weltmer, Superintendent, Spring Grove State Hospital, in which he recommended increase in salary of Christian Maisel, carpenter, from \$89.00 per month to \$100.00 per month, beginning July 1st, 1936. Dr. Weltmer thought it necessary to do this in order to retain the services of Mr. Maisel who is a very good mechanic and who has had opportunity to take employment elsewhere at a higher rate of pay.

The Board approved the request of Dr. Weltmer the increase to be taken care of through a budget amendment.

The following letter from the State Roads Commission, dated July 25th, 1936, relative to the filling of positions, was read and approved -

July 25, 1936.

Mr. Jos. O'C. McCusker, Secretary,
The Board of Public Works,
Annapolis, Md.

Dear Sir:-

The following positions shown as "vacant" in recent Budget Amendments of the Commission, have been filled as indicated below:

District No. 5 - Thomas L. Sappington, Road Inspector
\$1200.00 per year - Reinstated

District No. 6 - John S. Beall, Road Inspector,
\$1320.00 per year - Reinstated
James J. Mullaney, Road Inspector
\$1200.00 per year - Reinstated

Laboratory Department - Thomas J. French, Road Inspector
\$1,200.00 per year - Reinstated

Very truly yours,

/s/ Wm. A. Codd,

Chief Auditor.

LEM.

cc. Mr. W. H. Blakeman
Budget Director.

*St. Dept. of
Public Welfare*

The following letter from the Board of State Aid and Charities, dated July 24th, 1936, was read and considered, and the request of the Board of State Aid and Charities was approved -

BOARD OF STATE AID AND CHARITIES
Union Trust Building.
BALTIMORE

July 24th, 1936.

Board of Public Works,
Union Trust Building,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sirs:

There are still in the hands of the Comptroller of Maryland, approximately \$8500.00 left over Federal Funds, about \$3500.00 ear-marked for Flood Relief and \$5,000.00 Special Material.

The Board of State Aid and Charities is, just

at the present time, since the curtailment of its office force, in need of a little additional temporary clerical assistance. I will be glad if you will see your way clear to authorize the employing of several persons for a period of certainly not more than ninety days, to be paid for out of the funds referred to above.

These funds are balances left over from the Federal Relief Funds and cannot be used except upon your authority.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Samuel E. Shannahan,
Chairman.

SES:K

msal.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the Commission on Higher Education of Negroes in which a request for an appropriation of \$2500.00 out of the Reserve Fund was made for the purpose of compiling and publishing certain information in connection with negro education.

The Board agreed to make this money available to the Commission out of the 1936 Reserve Fund.

msal.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board the bill of Dr. John T. O'Mara, dated July 1, 1936, in the amount of \$65.00, for services rendered for Mr. Harry Atzrodt, 2003 Penrose Ave., Baltimore, Confederate Veteran who died shortly prior to the date of Dr. O'Mara's bill.

The Board authorized the payment of the bill out of the amount which is available at this time in the fund for the maintenance of Mr. Atzrodt for the current fiscal year.

The Secretary read to the Board copies of correspondence received from Dr. Homer E. Tabler, Chairman of the State Roads Commission and Col. Harry C. Jones, State Employment Commissioner, in connection with the employment of persons to be used in the road survey and road planning being done in connection with funds received from the United States Government for this purpose.

The Board approved the procedure outlined in the correspondence.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Crownsville State Hospital dated July 31st, 1936, relative to procuring of tablets to be used on buildings at Crownsville State Hospital.

The Board approved the request of the Hospital that these tablets be obtained and approved the wording for the tablets with the exception that in the case of the tablet for the Robert P. Winterode Building, the Board of Managers of the Hospital at the time this work was first undertaken should be shown instead of the members of the Board at the present time.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board for approval voucher of the State Roads Commission in the amount of \$37,500.00, payable to the Harpers Ferry and Potomac Bridge Company, being Maryland's share for the purchase of all rights, title and interest of the Bridge Company at Harpers Ferry Bridge.

The Board approved the payment of this amount in connection with the acquisition of the right, etc. for this Bridge. The Board authorized as the procedure for disbursing funds made available through the Emergency Reconstruction Bond Issue of 1936 that these funds be transferred from the bond account to the appropriate account of the State Roads Commission, and authorized the compliance with any regulation of the Federal Government in connection with the receipt and handling of funds to be received from the Federal Government in connection with the construction of bridges across the Potomac at Harpers Ferry and at other points.

*St. Dept. of
Public Welfare*

The following letter from J. Milton Patterson, Executive Secretary of the Board of State Aid and Charities, dated August 3rd, 1936 was read and considered -

BOARD OF STATE AID AND CHARITIES

937 Calvert Building,
Baltimore, Md.

August 3, 1936.

Mr. Wm. S. Gordy, Jr., Comptroller,
Treasury Department,
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

Attention: Mr. J.O. McCusker,
Chief Deputy Comptroller.

Dear Mr. McCusker:-

Confirming telephone conversation, I herewith enclose budget covering expenditure of Federal and State funds for services to Crippled Children. Also a sheet showing the source of funds, and a copy of a wire from Washington approving our plan, and hope to have the approval of the Board of Public Works.

I am also enclosing supplemental budget to set up an Estate Division, based upon the need of settling of estates and insurance policies - Old Age Assistance - Aid to the Needy Blind - adjustments on policies - Aid to Dependent Children.

The Old Age Pension Law requires that the local Board of each county and the Department of Welfare of Baltimore City shall require as a condition to granting of pension in any case that -

1. The applicant submit a properly acknowledged agreement to reimburse the State and the County for all assistance granted.
2. In such agreement the applicant shall sign as collateral security for assistance such part of his personal property as the local unit shall require.
3. The law also gives the local unit permission to require that property be transferred to the local unit. Such property if so transferred shall be managed by the local units under the rules and regulations of the Board of State Aid and Charities.

The law for the blind places the same responsibility on the Board of State Aid and Charities as the above does in regard to old age pensions.

For some time the County Welfare Boards have been clamoring for decisions and assistance in the handling of this important phase of the Law, and we feel that further delay should not be permitted. The County Welfare Boards do not have at their disposal any legal service, and if they did, it would have no uniformity, because we would have 23 local units handling this clause in the Law each in a different manner. The administration of this section of the Law should serve both the best interests of the State and the recipients, and it is our hope to set up a division to see that the best interests of the two involved are taken care of.

Both of these programs have been unanimously approved by the Board of State Aid and Charities.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. Milton Patterson
Executive Secretary.

JMP:MK

The Board approved the procedure outlined in Mr. Patterson's letter.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from Frank C. Robey, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Baltimore, in which he advised that during the rush in the sale of licenses for the new license year some counterfeit money, aggregating \$110.00 had been received in his office and he wished to be relieved of the responsibility of making this money good. The Board voted to relieve Mr. Robey from the responsibility of accounting for these receipts.

Spec.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter received from Charles S. Houck, Jr., Department Commander of the American Legion, Department of Maryland, Inc., in which the Board was requested to provide \$600.00 for use in presenting Maryland's outstanding historical episode during the spectacle pageant to be held at the national convention of the American Legion on September 20th, in Cleveland.

The Board was very sympathetic to the plan of the American Legion, but found itself unable to make any funds available because of not having a right to create an item of appropriation and because of the fact that all of their items in the budget are specifically dedicated to other purposes.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. E. Lee LeCompte, State Game Warden, in which it was requested that \$63,212.70, which was transferred from the State Game Protection Fund to the General Treasury of Maryland, during the fiscal years 1934 and 1935 be restored to the State Game Fund.

The Board concluded that it would be impossible to allocate this money to the State Game Fund, and that the only way it could be restored would be through legislative action. The matter will be considered at the time the Budget is being prepared for submission to the General Assembly of 1937.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Joseph A. McClusker
Secretary.